

MEMORANDUM

TO: School Superintendents and Principals

FROM: Gary Wallyn, Director

Office of Accreditation and Awards

DATE: April 2, 2008

SUBJECT: 2006-2007 School Accreditation

The Indiana State Board of Education approved accreditation status for 657 Indiana schools at its meeting on Wednesday, April 2, 2008. This is the second of three groups of schools to receive accreditation using the school improvement and performance categories established in IC 20-31-8 (Public Law 221-1999). Recommended adjustments to the accreditation status of schools from the initial group of Indiana schools announced in 2007 were also approved.

The following is a summary of the accreditation results for year two schools:

Public Schools

Full Accreditation Status - 307
Provisional Accreditation Status - 269
Provisional Accreditation Status - Legal Standards Only – 5
Accredited Programs – 21
Probationary Accreditation Status - 0

Non-Public Schools

Full Accreditation Status - 70
Provisional Accreditation Status - 2
Provisional Accreditation Status - Legal Standards Only - 4
Probationary Accreditation Status - 0

Pursuant to <u>Indiana Code 20-31-4</u> and State Board of Education rule <u>511 IAC 6.1-1-3</u>, the State Board shall accord each school either Full accreditation status, Provisional accreditation status, or Probationary accreditation status.

Under 511 IAC 6.1-1-4, a school must meet the following accreditation requirements to be accorded full accreditation status:

- (1) Compliance with the following legal standards:
 - (A) Health and safety requirements listed under 511 IAC 6.1-2.
 - (B) Minimum time requirements listed under 511 IAC 6.1-3.
 - (C) Staff-student ratio requirements listed under 511 IAC 6.1-4.
 - (D) Curriculum offering requirements listed under 511 IAC 6.1-5 and 511 IAC 6.1-5.1.
 - (E) Instructional staff requirements listed under 511 IAC 6.1-6.

- (F) ISTEP participation requirements in accordance with IC 20-32-5, IC 20-32-8, and 511 IAC 5-2.
- (G) Mandatory annual assessment requirements in accordance with 511 IAC 6.2-6.
- (H) Accurate and timely submission of all reports required of schools.
- (I) Production of an annual performance report that meets the requirements of IC 20-20-8 and in the case of a:
 - (i) public school, is published in accordance with IC 20-20-8-3; or
 - (ii) nonpublic school, is disseminated to school constituents.
- (J) Strategic and continuous school improvement and achievement planning requirements under IC 20-31-5 and 511 IAC 6.2-3.
- (2) Assignment to one (1) of the following categories of school improvement and performance under 511 IAC 6.2-6-4:
 - (A) Exemplary.
 - (B) Commendable.
 - (C) Academic progress.

A school will receive Provisional accreditation status if the school meets the legal standards for accreditation but the school is placed in the Academic Watch category of school improvement and performance. A school also will receive Provisional accreditation status if the school meets legal standards but is in the first or second year after initial placement in the Academic Probation category of school improvement and performance.

A school will receive Probationary accreditation status, with at least an annual review, if the school, remains in the Academic Probation category of school improvement and performance in a third subsequent year after initial placement. This is the point at which state intervention occurs under our accountability law, and this provision has the effect of tying accreditation to accountability, including student transfer options.

Since the State Board cannot accord Full accreditation status to a school that does not comply with legal standards, the State Board notes those instances where Provisional accreditation status or Probation accreditation status is accorded for a reason other than school performance. A school that comes into compliance may be reclassified automatically to Full Accreditation.

Click here for a complete <u>list of accreditation status for year two schools</u>

Click here for an updated list of accreditation status for year one schools